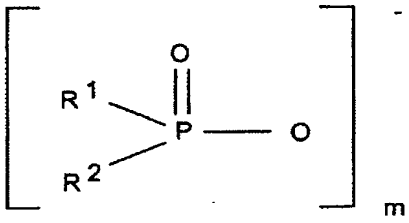
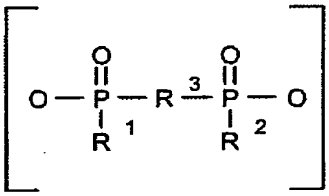


(I)



(II)

where

R^1,R^2 are identical or different and are C_1-C_6-alkyl, linear or branched, ~~and/~~or aryl;

R^3 is C_1-C_{10}-alkylene, linear or branched, C_6-C_{10}-arylene, -alkylarylene or –arylalkylene;

M is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na, K ~~and/~~or a protonated nitrogen base;

m is from 1 to 4;

n is from 1 to 4; and

x is from 1 to 4,

and ~~also comprises~~ as component B a compound selected from the group consisting of ~~at least one~~a synthetic inorganic compound, ~~and/or~~ a mineral product and mixtures thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are identical or different and are C_1-C_6-alkyl, linear or branched, ~~and/~~or phenyl.

3. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein R^1 and R^2 are identical or different and are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl ~~and/~~or phenyl.

4. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed ~~in one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R^3 is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene, isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene or n-dodecylene.

5. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R^3 is phenylene or naphthylene.

6. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R^3 is methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene, methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene or tert-butylnaphthylene.

7. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R^3 is phenylmethylene, phenylethylene, phenylpropylene or phenylbutylene.

8. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7, which comprises~~claim 1, comprising from 0.1 to 30 parts by weight of ~~phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these (~~component A~~)~~, and from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of component B, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

9. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 8, which comprises~~claim 1, comprising from 1 to 15 parts by weight of ~~phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these (~~component A~~)~~, and from 1 to 20 parts by weight of component B, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

10. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 9~~claim 1, wherein component B ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of an oxygen compound of silicon, magnesium compounds, metal carbonates of metals from main group two of the periodic table, red phosphorus, zinc compounds ~~or~~ and aluminum compounds.

11. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 10~~claim 1, wherein component B ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of oxygen compounds of silicon, salts and esters of orthosilicic acid and the condensation products thereof, silicates, zeolites, ~~and~~ silicas, glass, glass-ceramic, ~~or~~ ceramic powders~~; the magnesium compounds comprise magnesium hydroxide, hydrotalcites, magnesium carbonates or magnesium calcium carbonates; the zinc compounds comprise zinc oxide, zinc stannate, zinc hydroxystannate, zinc phosphate, zinc borate or zinc sulfides; and the aluminum compounds comprise aluminum hydroxide or aluminum phosphate~~.

12. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 11~~claim 1, further comprising as component C a compound selected from the group consisting of nitrogen compounds, ~~and/or~~ phosphorus-nitrogen compounds, and mixtures thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7~~claim 12, comprising from 0.1 to 30 parts by weight of ~~phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these~~ (component A~~), and~~ from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of component B, and from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of component C, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

14. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7~~claim 12, comprising from 1 to 15 parts by weight of ~~phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or~~

~~polymers of these~~ (component A)~~, and~~ from 1 to 20 parts by weight of component B, and from 1 to 20 parts by weight of component C, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

15. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 10~~claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ component C is selected from the group consisting of melamine, a melamine derivative of cyanuric acid, a melamine derivative of isocyanuric acid, a melamine salt, ~~such as melamine phosphate~~, melamine polyphosphate, ~~or~~ melamine diphosphate, and melamine dicyandiamide ~~or~~ a guanidine compound~~, such as guanidine carbonate, guanidine phosphate or guanidine sulfate, and/or is~~ a condensation product of ethyleneurea and formaldehyde, and~~/or is~~ a carbodiimide.

16. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 14, which is~~ claim 1, wherein the thermoset composition is selected from the group consisting of a molding composition, a coating or a laminate made from thermoset resins.

17. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim ~~15~~16, wherein the thermoset resins are unsaturated polyester resins or epoxy resins.

18. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 17, which comprises~~claim 1 comprising the steps of mixing a thermoset resin with ~~a flame retardant made from phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these~~ (component A,~~)~~ ~~with~~ and at least one component B to form a mixture, and wet-pressing ~~(cold-pressing)~~ the ~~resultant~~ mixture at ~~pressures~~ a pressure of from 3 to 10 bar and at ~~temperatures~~ a temperature of from 20 to 60°C.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 16, which comprises~~claim 1, comprising the steps of mixing a thermoset resin with ~~a flame retardant made from phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these~~ (component A,) ~~with~~ and at least one component B to form a mixture, and wet-pressing ~~(warm- or hot-pressing)~~ the ~~resultant~~ mixture at ~~pressures~~ a pressure of from 3 to 10 bar and at ~~temperatures~~ a temperature of from 80 to 150°C.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 16, which comprises~~claim 1, comprising the steps of mixing a thermoset resin with ~~a flame retardant made from phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these~~ (component A,) ~~with~~ and at least one component B to form a mixture, and processing the ~~resultant~~ mixture at ~~pressures~~ a pressure of from 50 to 150 bar and at ~~temperatures~~ a temperature of from 140 to 160°C to give prepregs.

21. (New) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein component B is selected from the group of magnesium compounds, zinc compounds and aluminum compounds.

22. (New) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the magnesium compounds are selected from the group consisting of magnesium hydroxide, magnesium hydrotalcites, magnesium carbonates and magnesium calcium carbonates.

23. (New) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the zinc compounds are selected from the group consisting of zinc oxide, zinc stannate, zinc hydroxystannate, zinc phosphate, zinc borate and zinc sulfides.

24. (New) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the aluminum compounds are selected from the group consisting of aluminum hydroxide and aluminum phosphate.

25. (New) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein the melamine salt is melamine phosphate.

26. (New) A flame-retardant composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the guanidine compound is selected from the group consisting of guanidine carbonate, guanidine phosphate and guanidine sulfate.

27. (New) The process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the wet-pressing step further comprises cold pressing.

28. (New) The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the wet pressing step further comprises warm or hot pressing.